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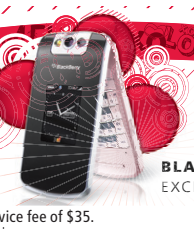

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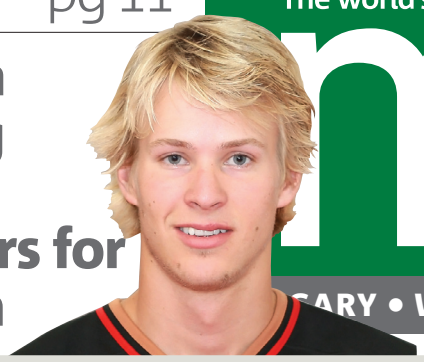
Sports pg 11

Postma putting up big numbers for Hitmen



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Vancouver **Games**

Countdown to 2010

• Comments & Views
Should the Games be scaled down in light of the global economic crisis? Canadians weigh in, pg 8

• Coming up this week
Thursday — One-year countdown at Whistler
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Valentine's **Day**

Matters of the heart

• Travel
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• Entertainment
Movies great, just not for first date and Moviefone's top rom-com flicks, pg 15

• Coming up
Thursday — Recipes for a cosy night in, romantic wine selections and the worst love songs
Weekend edition — Alan Cross reveals why some love songs can misrepresent your true intentions

'Textbook' throne speech

JEFF CUMMINGS and KRISTA SYLVESTER

It was a throne speech meant to shield Albertans from the worldwide economic crunch, focusing on keeping the province moving forward.

In his speech from the throne, Lt.-Gov. Norman Kwong said the Conservative government will follow through in making new infrastructure investments to hospitals, schools and public structures to "strengthen communities and help municipalities address growth pressure."

"In today's economic environment, now more than ever, this means investing strategically and building responsibility," Kwong said.

Calgary Catholic School Board chair Marge Belcourt said while there's few details in the throne speech, she is excited to hear talk for more educational infrastructure.

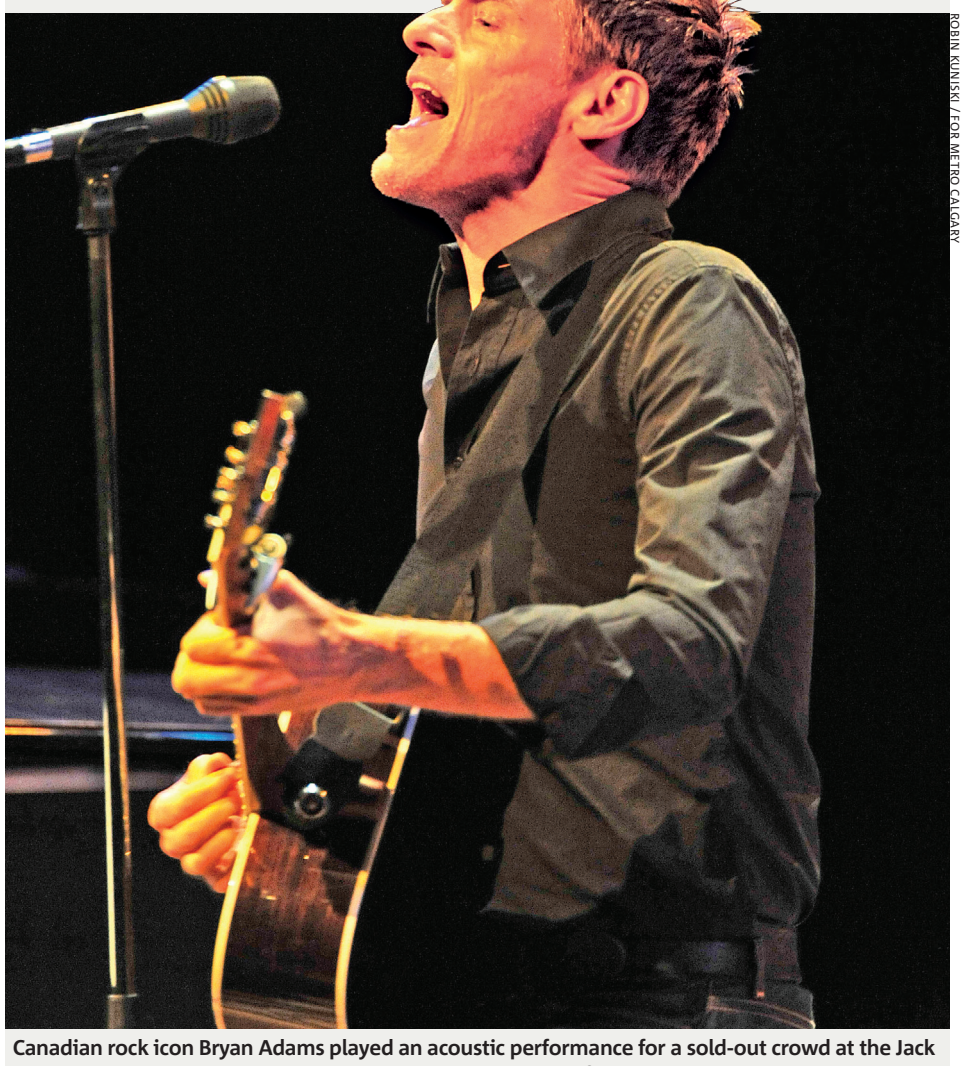
"It will create more space for students, and create more jobs, which is good for the economy," Belcourt said.

The province also vowed to move ahead on plans to develop 11,000 affordable housing units by giving capital funds to municipalities to create more jobs.

Mount Royal College political analyst Duane Bratt said yesterday's throne speech was textbook as it addressed everything from environment, health, education, forestry, energy, economy and agriculture.

"It wasn't just current plans but future plans, too," Bratt said.

Adams **Acoustic show**



ROBIN KUNISKI / FOR METRO CALGARY

Canadian rock icon Bryan Adams played an acoustic performance for a sold-out crowd at the Jack Singer Concert Hall last night. Adams is touring in support of his new album, 11.

U of C pro-life club stripped of recognition, funding

JENNIFER HILLIKER for Metro Calgary

CLUB The University of Calgary's Students' Union made a decision last night to strip a campus club of its recognition and funding.

The decision was provoked by trespassing charges laid on the Campus Pro-Life group earlier this month after its refusal to remove graphic posters comparing genocide to abortion.

Club members say they were just exercising their right to free speech.

"They haven't even provided us with a specific violation that we've committed," said Alanna Campbell, pro-life group treasurer. "We were hoping our Students' Union would stick up for their students' rights and freedoms, but they are obviously not going to."

Campbell confirmed the group would no longer be eligible for funding.

The club plans to make an appeal to the Students' Union within the allotted five days.

The Students' Union did not return calls by press time.

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Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Canada

Man charged with attempted murder after Westbrook Mall shooting
An 18-year-old man has been charged with attempted murder stemming from a shooting incident in Westbrook Mall on Jan. 31. Muhanad Bashir Eddan was charged in the incident that left two men with gunshot wounds. METRO CALGARY

Local

Weingarten steps down

University of Calgary president Harvey Weingarten announced yesterday he is stepping down on Jan. 1, 2010 after serving for nine years at the school. "The start of a new decade is the right time to hand over the reins to the next president," Weingarten said in a release. A new president is expected to take over. METRO CALGARY

ALICIA FOX / FOR METRO CALGARY

Rory Rogal explains government job opportunities to students at the University of Calgary at yesterday's campus career fair.

U of C career fair shows jobs still out there

JOBS Despite sour predictions for the economy, the University of Calgary held a sold-out career fair yesterday, with 130 vendors taking part.

Voula Cocolakis, U of C's director of career services, said it expects 3,000 students to browse through the possibilities at the fifth annual fair.

"There has been a lot of doom and gloom ... but there are still opportunities out there," she said, adding that fewer positions mean that students must compete with other graduates.

But student Gibran Lopez was still anxious as he wandered around the Jack Simpson gym where the fair was held.

Lopez said that it was encouraging to see all the employers at the fair but "it's scary" to think that he might not get a job as a new grad with a degree in chemistry. ALICIA FOX/ FOR METRO CALGARY

Two homes razed by flames

JENNIFER HILLIKER
for Metro Calgary

As Les Walker helped others find their dream house, the charred remains of his fire-gutted home were ripped apart.

The realtor woke up around 1:15 a.m. yesterday to his 24-year-old son screaming that there was a fire in the house under construction next door, which quickly spread to his Cranston home and caused $2 million in damages, according to initial estimates. Walker didn't want to see the fire department demolish what remained of his house, so instead he went to work.

"There's no point in going back — there's nothing left," he said.

"I'm just thankful my son saw the fire. It just spread so quickly from next door. Thanks to him we grabbed the pups and headed out."

The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

ROBIN KUNISKI / METRO CALGARY

Firefighters and demo crews sift through the remains of a Cranleigh Terrace SE home that went up in flames early yesterday morning. Three people escaped unharmed.

About 30 firefighters worked to put out the blaze, positioning themselves between the two fully engulfed homes and the uninvolved houses to stop the fire from spreading.

Thousands of gallons of water were poured onto the houses from elevated water streams in an attempt to douse the fire.

"This just shows how quickly houses can go up in flames," said Jeff Budai with the Calgary Fire Department.

Walker, along with his wife, son and dogs, will be forced to find other accommodations while the insurance company works things out.

"I've never even made a car insurance claim, let alone a house insurance claim," Walker said.

City wards to be redrawn — without new councillors

COUNCIL Wards are being redrawn, but there will be no addition to city council members.

Ald. Andre Chabot put forward a motion at city council yesterday for city administration to report back on the costs of increasing council members from 14 to 16, but was voted down when only Ald. Bob Hawkesworth and Ald. Ray Jones backed Chabot.

However, neither of them were particularly happy with the proposed new ward boundaries, which drastically affect both Ward 4 and Ward 10.

"The new ward boundaries for communities in Ward 4 are quite disconnected," Hawkesworth said.

"The new ward boundaries ... are quite disconnected."
Ald. Bob Hawkesworth

"It will form a horseshoe around Nosehill Park."

He's especially concerned about the continuity of the neighbourhoods that would be connected, saying they would have been better off in different wards.

However, it's not set in stone, particularly because the Calgary Board of Education, which bases its decisions on ward boundaries, has yet to submit an opinion and council's vote was close: 8-6 in favour.

ALICIA FOX / FOR METRO CALGARY

News in brief

VALENTINE'S DAY A national survey said 68 per cent of Albertans will spend more this year on Valentines candy, chocolates, flowers, dinner and gifts than last year, according to MasterCard. It said 29 per cent of Albertans plan to spend between $20 and $49 this year. Compared nationally, MasterCard said 80 per cent of Canadians plan to spend the same or more than last year. The survey also said 71 per cent of Alberta will buy gifts for their children compared to 68 per cent nationally.

GANGS Members of the Calgary Police Service are trying to strengthen relationships with members of the community today. To do so, they will be presenting a series of neighbourhood forums in District 4 on safer communities, gangs and drugs. The first session will be from 7 to 9 p.m. in the theatre at Forest Lawn High School. A force gang expert will speak, followed by a Youth At Risk Development program representative. METRO CALGARY

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Cutting employee wellness plans bad for the bottom line at **metronews.ca/local**

Video Canada's Olympic athletes face pressure in Vancouver at **metronews.ca/canada**

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4 local

Slippery sidewalk and road conditions plague city
By late afternoon yesterday, paramedics attended to 38 calls for patients who sustained injuries from slips and falls on sidewalks. METRO CALGARY

ROBIN KUNISKI/FOR METRO CALGARY

Insp. Kevan Stuart from District 5 shows weapons seized during a raid on a house in Rocky View that was holding banned and unregistered guns, large amounts of ammunition and a blow gun.

Weapons seized from acreage

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

A tip from the public led to a rare find for Calgary police as they seized guns, ammo and an unusual weapon from a Municipal District of Rocky View property late last month.

Police executed a search warrant on an acreage in Rocky View on Jan. 29 in search of stolen property and found 16 guns — including an assault rifle — ammunition, two crossbows and a stolen truck.

Police were most concerned with the number of weapons and the fact that one was prohibited and the other was unheard of.

"It's very unusual … I've never come across this type of weapon before," District 5 Insp. Kevan Stuart said of a blow gun loaded with a metal dart. "It's unique, interesting," he said.

> **"I've never come across this type of weapon before."**
> Insp. Kevan Stuart

Police are investigating where the weapons originated from and where they were going.

Police said the weapons weren't registered, though they can use the serial numbers to trace them.

"Part of the investigation will see if we connect it to organized crime," Stuart said, adding police would also determine if the weapons were used in other crimes.

Police said suspect Rocco Amoruso, 52, of Rocky View is known to police, though police would not comment further.

Amoruso is facing 20 charges, including 15 counts of unauthorized possession of a firearm and three counts of possession of a prohibited weapon.

Higher density approved for Hillhurst Sunnyside

DEVELOPMENT The community of Hillhurst Sunnyside is getting a new look — but not by much.

On Monday, council approved a rule change that would allow for higher density housing in the northwest community, meaning that the neighbourhood will likely see apartment buildings no more than 10 storeys high built along Kensington Road.

"We're really happy, actually," said Derek Hann, president of the Hillhurst Sunnyside Community Association.

He said the community has had a lot of say in what has been a very long process and anticipates the community members will be satisfied with the change since they "do recognize they're an inner-city community."

Hann said they wanted to maintain "the basic feel of the neighbourhood," which is that of a village with single family homes.

ALICIA FOX/FOR METRO CALGARY

No new seats for council

COUNCIL City council won't be growing by two members after Ward 10 Ald. Andre Chabot's motion was shot down by council yesterday.

Chabot was hoping to add two new spots to council in the 2010 election.

METRO CALGARY

Twitter event explains social networking site

INTERNET Calgary Twitter users are getting together tomorrow to learn more about the social networking site and raise money for the homeless.

The event takes place at the Auburn saloon and includes music, a silent auction and a discussion about social media.

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Saudi court spares Canadian's life

The Saudi supreme court has rejected the death sentence of Mohamed Kohail of Montreal and has asked the lower court to revise its ruling. Kohail was convicted of murder and sentenced to a public beheading after a schoolyard brawl in 2007. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Canada

ACE Aviation launches share bid

Air Canada's parent company, ACE Aviation Holdings Inc., said yesterday it launched a new $84-million offer for its preferred shares as it seeks to complete the windup of its operations. ACE said it aims to buy back 4.2 million outstanding preferreds at $20 each, giving holders the opportunity to deposit their shares if they did not do so under the previous offer. REUTERS

Immigration target may drop: Minister

Rising unemployment could force the federal government to nudge shut the door on thousands of foreigners looking to make Canada their new home, Immigration Minister Jason Kenney says.

While Ottawa is sticking by its pledge to accept 240,000 to 265,000 permanent residents this year, the worsening economic outlook may prompt the government to rethink that target in the coming months, Kenney said yesterday.

"We don't want people coming to Canada and facing unemployment. We need to be sensitive to the changing labour market," he said.

Kenney said Canada, which accepted 247,000 permanent residents last year, so far "stands alone" among other nations by maintaining its levels for permanent residents.

However, he conceded that may change, given economic conditions.

Federal and provincial immigration officials plan to meet next month and decide whether to tinker with the target.

But Kenney made clear his preference is to stick with the current target, calling new immigrants the "fuel" of the economy, once it turns around.

"We're going to need immigration as a source of economic growth. In the next decade, 100 per cent of our net labour market growth will be as a result of immigration," he said. "We don't want to turn off the tap of the future growth that is represented by immigration."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Present pledge

- The current target of up to 265,000 permanent residents includes up to 156,600 immigrants in the economic category, 71,000 in the family category and 37,400 in the humanitarian category.

Ottawa **Top soldiers meet**

CHRIS WATTIE/REUTERSS

Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Michael Mullen, left, and Canada's chief of the defence staff, Gen. Walt Natynczyk, speak to reporters at National Defence headquarters yesterday. Admiral Mullen refused to comment on Canada's planned 2011 withdrawal from Afghanistan.

News in brief

WORK PERMIT China expressed unhappiness yesterday at Canada's granting of a work permit to Lai Changxing, a Chinese man accused by Beijing of being a smuggling kingpin.

ENVIRONMENT A coalition of Canadian and U.S. environmental groups has launched a cross-border campaign ahead of Barack Obama's visit to Canada, urging the U.S. president to stick to his new energy plan.

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Return of Big Bang machine delayed
The giant particle collider built to reproduce Big Bang conditions for atomic study will now be restarted in September to allow time for $37 million in repairs, the European Organization for Nuclear Research said. It was originally planned to be restarted in the summer. REUTERS

World

"They should be allowed to rot in jail."

Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd on appropriate punishment for possible arsonists suspected of starting the nation's worst bushfires.

Operation Phoenix

As the death toll from Australia's bushfires looked to top 200, police launched Operation Phoenix, the nation's biggest arson investigation, to catch anyone who started a "suspicious" blaze. They noted there were no natural events such as lightning that would have sparked the fires. REUTERS

Philippines **Dolphin rescue**

ROMEO RANOCO/REUTERS

Residents and fishermen watch hundreds of dolphins swim away from the shoreline in Orion, north of Manila, yesterday. Dozens of fishing boats tried to stop the disoriented dolphins from beaching themselves near Manila Bay, officials said.

News in brief

FRANCE A storm cut off power to 608,000 homes in northern France, in the second major storm to hit the country in three weeks. Gale force winds killed four and cut power to two million homes on Jan. 24.

TRIAL Amer Mushtaq Butt, a Pakistani man, went on trial in France yesterday for setting his ex-girlfriend Chahrazade Belayni on fire and causing third-degree burns after she refused to marry him. REUTERS

Israeli vote uncertain

Israel faces today what could be weeks of political uncertainty after an election that ended with clashing claims of victory by centrist Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni and hawkish rival Benjamin Netanyahu.

With nearly complete final results giving Livni's Kadima party a slim edge of one or two seats over Netanyahu's right-wing Likud in the 120-member parliament, she pledged to lead a new government and invited him to join.

Netanyahu, pointing to what he called a large "nationalist camp" in parliament, said he would become prime minister and establish a governing coalition with rightist parties.

"With God's help I will lead the next government," Netanyahu, 59, told Likud supporters after exit polls yesterday gave Kadima a slim lead and right-wing parties some 64 parliamentary seats.

Addressing cheering Kadima activists, Livni, 50, said: "The Israeli public can smile again when we form the government." She would become Israel's first female prime minister since Golda Meir governed in the 1970s.

The overall rightward shift in the Knesset will, in any case, dent hopes in U.S. President Barack Obama's administration for an Israeli coalition that pushes for peace with the Palestinians and other Arab neighbours after last month's war in the Gaza Strip. REUTERS

What next?

- President Shimon Peres in theory can nominate any legislator to try to form a government within 42 days.
- In practice, the leader of the biggest party is nominated after an election, but he is not legally bound to do so.
- Peres' discussions with Knesset factions could take a week, and coalition negotiations could take a month.

Students, cops clash in Bangladesh over policy

BANGLADESH More than 200 people including several policemen were injured and at least 20 students were arrested in clashes with students of technical colleges across Bangladesh.

Violence erupted as police went into action when students vandalized vehicles demanding cancellation of a new academic policy. Under the new rules, students would be expelled if they failed any subject, and only able to resume their studies in the next year.

Police say the violence, reported from at least 10 cities and towns across the country, is now under control, and security has been tightened. REUTERS

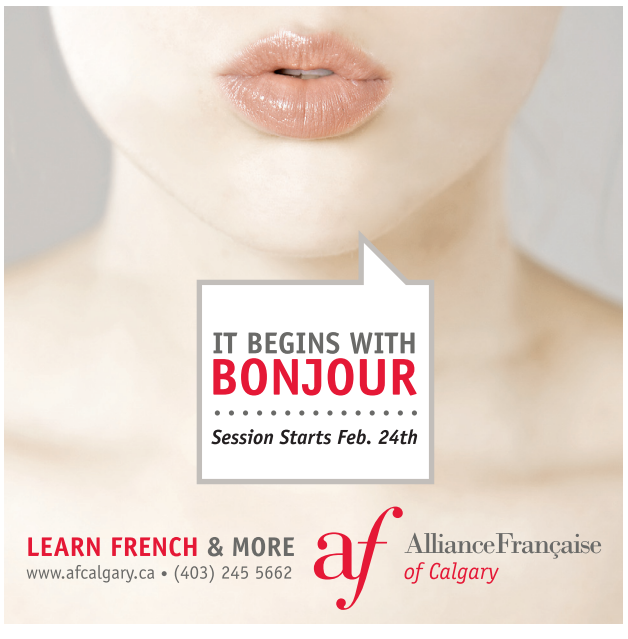
Haggling begins over U.S. stimulus

ECONOMY U.S. lawmakers worked late into the night yesterday haggling over a final package of tax cuts and spending initiatives, as talks centred on an $800-billion US package to fight the recession.

The negotiations in the Capitol began shortly after the Senate passed its $838-billion version of a rescue plan to fight the recession.

The Senate voted 61-37 yesterday to approve its version, with support from just three Republicans, while the House of Representatives had last month passed its $820-billion package with no Republican support.

U.S. President Barack Obama wants the Democratic-controlled Congress to deliver a package by this weekend so he can sign it into law. But he must keep together a narrow coalition that wants the price tag lowered to about $800 billion. REUTERS



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Comment & Views

Comment

Give gifts some thought

ModernLife

Georgie Binks
georgiebinks@rogers.com

Valentine'sDay

What is it with men and gifts? How can a man who has written poetry for his lover, feted her with engraved trinkets suddenly show up with kitchen gadgets?

A blip on the radar, but mention this to other women and immediately the taps start flowing.

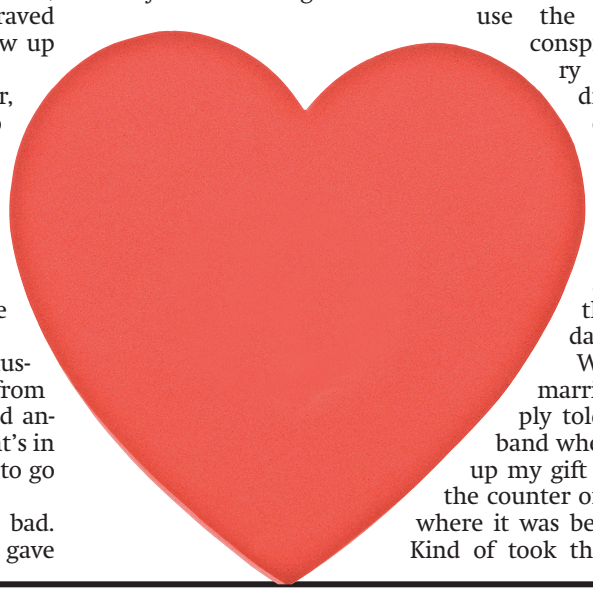
"At least you got something," moans one. "My last birthday my husband gave me nothing. Nothing."

Another woman's husband arrived home from work one birthday and announced, "Your present's in the trunk if you want to go out and get it."

Not all stories are bad. One friend's husband gave her a lamp crafted from a piece of driftwood he had found on a beach they had visited. A little weird, but thoughtful.

Another male friend tells me his wife wanted to learn to play the saxophone, so he bought her one. The next year she received sheet music to go with it. "The key," he says, "is listening. Sometimes I store it in my memory, other times my BlackBerry."

Ah yes — listening — an excellent way to figure out your gal. Alana Gun, who runs a gift basket franchise in Winnipeg, says, "Men have no ideas. If they do, it's to put flowers in a gift basket. You cannot cover flowers in cello wrap." (Speaking of flowers, what is it with men and carnations?)



What also is it that makes a dude think he can use the Hallmark conspiracy theory to calm a disappointed woman. (I should be able to give you something any day I want). When I was married, I simply told my husband where to pick up my gift — behind the counter of the store where it was being saved. Kind of took the surprise out of it, but that wasn't a bad thing.

Good gifts may not necessarily mean a great guy, but bad or no gifts start to grate on a woman. It signifies he doesn't care enough to listen.

Some guys just have it. When my son was six, he took my pink Post-it notes, drew an arrow on each one, placing them all the way up the stairs and into my room. On my pillow was a note reading, "I love you."

Guys, I can't tell you what to give because every woman is different. Try to remember past conversations for clues, even a word. Stressed = spa; sexy = lingerie; very stressed out = trip. (By the way, sex is not a present for women, only for men.)

For most women, it's not the thought that counts, but that there's been any thought at all that really matters.

Georgie Binks is a Toronto freelance writer who has written about gender and relationships for CBC.ca, Elle, Chatelaine and Homemakers.

Word on the street: Should Vancouver scale down its Winter Olympics plans for 2010 in light of the current economic conditions?

Amanda Young
age 23, Calgary
A: What I learned (at university) is tourism actually brings a lot of revenue to the city. As long as they can use the facilities afterwards, I think they should (spend the money).

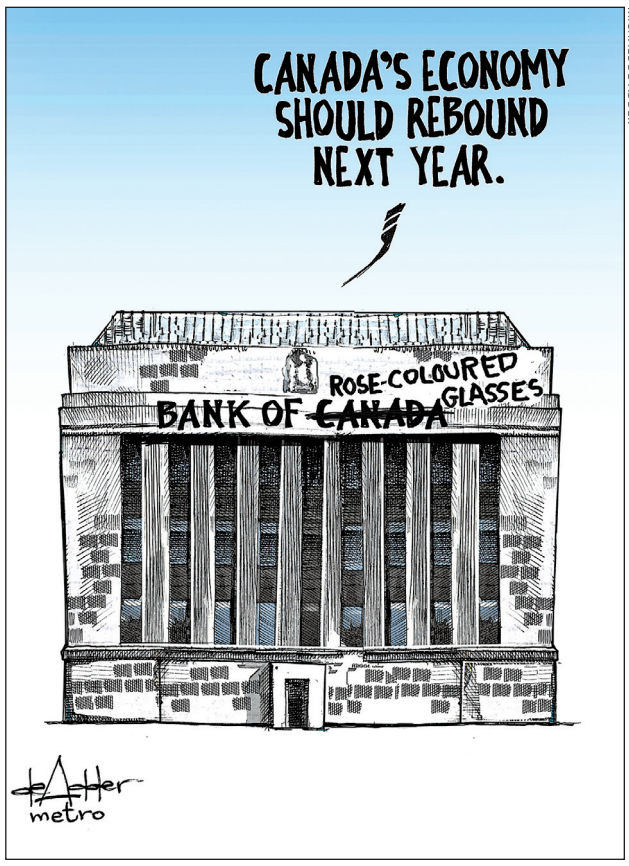
Ian Moore
age 20, Calgary
A: I think they should keep up all the pizzaz ... it's a good morale boost and the Olympics are always a big thing.

Kristin Teasell
age 21, Toronto
A: I think that it's kind of like an investment. It's tough to weigh, but in the long run, I think it will bring a lot of money into Canada.

Mark Weir
age 28, Ottawa
A: I think it should be somewhat scaled down ... If everyone has to cut back, I think the Olympics can maybe do without so many fireworks and things like that.

Aly Jetha
age 39, Vancouver
A: Absolutely not. The larger the Olympics, the better it is for the economy because more money will come into the economy.

Laura Steffen
age 26, Vancouver
A: Yes, because I believe that Vancouver is going to end up as broke as other cities have when they've had the Olympics.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Letters

No sale on cons of private-public water systems

Re: The cons of private-public water systems (Feb. 9)

Sheila Muxlow's comments on water PPPs do not match my experience and knowledge of decades in PPPs, including long before they were called that.

"Bound by law to put their shareholders' profits before the health of the public or the environment?" What nonsense is this? Private or public, we are bound by the same laws, except governments enforce the law more readily against corporations than against other governments.

Hamilton, Ont., water PPP? I know Hamilton. That project was an ill-conceived, politically driven, economic development project, unstructured, and died a deserved death.

Lack of control, complains CUPE Alberta? Why did the BC NDP PPP manual say in 1999, "It can be argued that local government has more control, in that it has well-defined contractual remedies in a PPP that it may not have with its own management and staff?"

And why did Walkerton, Ont., the worst drinking water disaster in Canadian history, move from public-sector operation to a PPP after the disaster? Better control and lower risk. Sorry Council of Canadians and CUPE, no sale on your arguments!

JOHN HUNTER, VANCOUVER

Everyone should be able to express their views

Re: Atheist ads promote debate, understanding (Feb. 5)

Atheists are allowed to express their views, too. Agnostics, too.

If God is the highest, most knowing being in the universe, and one knows there is no God, one may then be the most knowing being and is, in fact, God. I would say there is a God. Don't worry — he's got the whole world in his hands ... or our atheists do.

As a conservative Calvinist Christian, I understand there are no easy answers, and a qualified absolute statement on God is hardly a basis for living by happenstance.

JOHN VAN EGMOND, MISSISSAUGA, ONT.

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Book publisher HarperCollins to lay off staff
Book publisher HarperCollins, part of Rupert Murdoch's News Corp., is laying off staff, offering buyouts and closing a division to save money as consumers cut their spending. REUTERS

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Bank chief still confident

The Bank of Canada has plenty of flexibility to cut rates and expand liquidity operations if needed, but it expects a U.S. bank stabilization plan to mark the gradual return of confidence to the global financial system, governor Mark Carney said yesterday.

Grilled by legislators on a parliamentary finance committee, Carney also defended his highly questioned forecast for Canada's quick recovery from the recession to growth of 3.8 per cent next year.

Carney sought to assure legislators that the central bank has not run out of options to stimulate the economy and that, in comparison to some other countries, its rate cuts have translated into lower mortgages and rates throughout the system.

"We do realism at the Bank of Canada. We don't do spin."
Mark Carney

The bank has cut its benchmark overnight rate by 350 basis points since December 2007 to a 50-year low of one per cent. Its last cut was on Jan. 22 and its next decision is due March 3.

The bank has injected billions into money markets, peaking at $40 billion in December, and Carney said the bank stands ready to expand those operations if conditions warrant such action.

In defending his growth projections, Carney said the bank used 21 different forecasting models but also applied a considerable dose of personal judgment to its outlook, because of the highly uncertain global financial situation.

"We don't do optimism, we don't do pessimism. We do realism at the Bank of Canada. We don't do spin," he said. REUTERS

Live Nation acquisition faces scrutiny

MUSIC The world's largest concert promoter, Live Nation Inc., plans to buy Ticketmaster Entertainment Inc. for about $400 million US in stock in a bid to create a company with dominant holdings in concert promotion and ticket sales.

But shares of both companies fell yesterday amid concerns the acquisition would be blocked by U.S. antitrust regulators under the new Obama administration.

News of the merger has already raised questions with regulators, music fans, artists and record labels who believe the new company will have too much power over the live music business.

The combined company will be called Live Nation Entertainment, and sell more than 150 million concert tickets a year. REUTERS

HBC looks to Olympics for brand revitalization

GAMES The new owners of the Hudson's Bay Co. will face one of their first visible tests tomorrow when they unveil the Olympic torchbearers' uniform on a stage in Whistler, B.C., as part of a high-profile one-year countdown to the 2010 Winter Games.

Canada's oldest retailer is hoping to revitalize its brand by linking its image more closely to the Games. As part of that effort, the company is launching a redesigned corporate logo, one that will be on the Olympic uniforms.

So far the company has failed to capitalize effectively on its position as the official outfitter. Indeed, some of the wilder-looking orange-print merchandise developed in conjunction with the Beijing Games languished in its stores. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Background

- Hudson's Bay Co. won the right four years ago to outfit Canada's athletes for the next four Olympics.

In brief

GM General Motors Corp. will slash its global workforce by about 10,000 this year and impose pay cuts on most remaining white-collar U.S. workers.

CAW The Canadian Auto Workers union said yesterday that it has not yet entered into any formal talks on reopening collective bargaining agreements with Detroit's Big Three carmakers. REUTERS

Nike warns of job cuts
Nike Inc., the world's largest athletic shoe and clothing maker, warned yesterday that up to four per cent of its workforce could be cut amid an ongoing business review aimed at bringing products more quickly to market while reducing expenses. REUTERS

Car sector 'catastrophe' now global, says Peugeot head

AUTOS The auto industry is caught up in a catastrophe that has spread across the globe as even the key emerging markets that manufacturers had banked on for growth have now ground to a halt, a top executive said yesterday.

Christian Streiff, who heads Peugeot-Citroen, said he expects sales at Europe's second-biggest volume carmaker to fall 20 per cent in 2009 and sees further pain in 2010 as there seems no end in sight to the sector's crisis.

"What is striking at the moment is the worldwide catastrophe in the car industry because the Brazilian market, the Chinese market and the Russian market have stopped in their tracks just like the European market. That makes for a fall of over 20 per cent," Streiff told RTL radio. REUTERS

"The Brazilian market, the Chinese market and the Russian market have stopped in their tracks just like the European market."
Christian Streiff

Lions Gate drops revenue targets

Independent film studio Lions Gate Entertainment said yesterday it expects revenue and free cash flow to fall short of its original 2009 targets and 2010 home entertainment revenue could drop up to 12 per cent, sending its shares down over 28 per cent.

Lions Gate said it now expects a fiscal 2009 revenue of about $1.4 billion US, versus a target of $1.5 billion to $1.6 billion, and free cash flow in the negative $135-million range.

"That is a big miss. It speaks not only to the underperformance of our film business, but to our use of forecasting assumptions that in retrospect clearly have proven to be unrealistic," Lions Gate vice-chairman Michael Burns said on a conference call.

The company's shares were down 28.5 per cent to $3.81 in afternoon trading on the New York Stock Exchange, after going as low as $3.65 earlier in the session.

Lions Gate posted Monday a wider-than-expected loss for its fiscal third quarter that ended Dec. 31, citing underperforming films like The Spirit and Punisher: War Zone.

The studio, home to the popular Saw franchise, was the latest media company to cite the current economic crisis and changes in entertainment patterns for disappointing earnings, much like Walt Disney Co., Time Warner and News Corp .

Lions Gate now plans to release about 12 films in 2010 rather than the 15 or 16 released in 2009, and invest $100 million less in production, taking fewer risks. REUTERS

"It speaks ... to our use of forecasting assumptions that in retrospect clearly have proven to be unrealistic."
Michael Burns

China **Price inflation slows**

ALY SONG/REUTERS

A customer watches a dog as she holds a shopping bag in Shanghai, China, yesterday. China's annual consumer price inflation slowed to a 30-month low of one per cent in January from 1.2 per cent in December.

U.S. steel companies push for 'Buy American' provision

STIMULUS U.S. steel companies urged congressional leaders yesterday to maintain a strong "Buy American" provision as part of a final economic stimulus bill.

The plea came as U.S. exporters pushed for either eliminating or substantially weakening the measure, which they say would raise the cost of public works projects and send a protectionist message.

The Senate bill requires stimulus-funded public works projects to use only U.S.-made steel and manufactured goods. But in a step to address foreign concerns, senators approved an amendment requiring the provision be applied in a manner consistent with U.S. obligations under international agreements. REUTERS

Molson Coors profit misses target, shares sent sliding

ALCOHOL Molson Coors Brewing Co. reported a smaller-than-expected quarterly profit yesterday, hurt by slowing beer sales, a weak Canadian dollar and higher packaging costs, sending its shares down eight per cent.

Cash-strapped consumers balked at price increases in several markets for the maker of Coors Light and Molson Canadian beer, which saw worldwide quarterly beer volume fall 4.2 per cent to 10.7 million barrels. The figures exclude the loss of its U.S. sales to MillerCoors, a joint venture formed in July with SABMiller Plc.

But January sales rose at a low single-digit rate in the United States, giving chief executive Peter Swinburn some hope that consumers in Molson's largest market by sales will still reach for a beer in a recession. REUTERS

Business in brief

GEOTHERMAL Among scant potential alternatives to Russian gas in eastern Europe, experts say geothermal reserves could in the medium term be an option to reduce the dependence on natural gas. REUTERS

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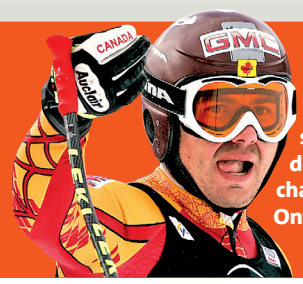
Bosh to miss NBA all-star game

Toronto's Chris Bosh will not play in Sunday's NBA all-star game due to a sprained right knee. Bosh missed last night's 110-102 Raptor win at Minnesota, his third straight game on the sidelines. He'll be replaced by guard Mo Williams of the Cavaliers. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports



Hudec's Olympic hopes take hit

Canadian downhill skier Jan Hudec learned yesterday he will need surgery to repair a torn ACL in his left knee. The 27-year-old Calgary resident suffered the injury during a fall Saturday at the world ski championships in France. Hudec will undergo surgery at a clinic in London, Ont., in the next week. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: JOHN CHICK, JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

Stanley Cup preview?

NHL RESULT

Sharks 5 **Bruins** 2

VS

Milan Michalek notched the game-winning goal during an early third-period burst, as San Jose upended Boston 5-2 in a battle of the NHL's top teams last night.

Patrick Marleau picked up a goal and two assists for the Sharks, who halted a three-game losing streak and moved within four points of Boston for the most points in the league. Rob Blake, Joe Thornton and Mike Grier also tallied and Evgeni Nabokov stopped 28 shots for the win.

Milan Lucic scored twice for the Bruins, who have dropped their last two after winning four straight but still lead the NHL with a 39-9-7 record for 85 points.

REUTERS/ADAM HUNGER

Boston's Milan Lucic and the Sharks' Marcel Goc collide.

Tim Thomas allowed four goals on 30 shots, suffering just his sixth regulation loss of the season.

The Sharks broke open the contest with three goals in a six-plus minute span in the final period.

Marleau found a loose puck at the top of the crease and stashed it home 3:32 into the third to tie the game, and Michalek rang a hard shot off the crossbar for the go-ahead tally at 7:28. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Postma posting big numbers

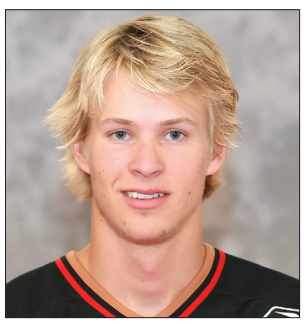
LAURENCE HEINEN
for Metro Calgary

Paul Postma has had a hot hand lately for the Calgary Hitmen.

Postma notched four more assists last night as the Hitmen (48-7-3-1) beat the Kamloops Blazers 8-1 at the Pengrowth Saddledome.

"You set your goals high," said Postma, who has put up 10 goals and 19 assists during a 14-game scoring streak, a career high. "Everything's been going absolutely awesome and I couldn't ask for anything else."

Prior to the season, Postma's goal was to provide veteran leadership after the graduation of blue-chip prospect Karl Alzner, who's now patrolling the blue-line for the Washington Capitals.



The Hitmen's Postma now has a 14-game scoring streak.

"Everyone thought that our defence was going to be struggling a little bit after Karl left last year, so there were some big shoes to fill and we're just making sure that we're filling them," said the 19-year-old Red Deer native, who leads a defence corps that includes three other drafted players in Alex Plante (Oilers, frist round, 2007), Keith Seabrook (Washington, second round, 2006) and Michael Stone (Coyotes, third round, 2008).

Meanwhile, the Atlanta Thrashers absolutely stole Postma with the seventh-last pick of the 2007 entry draft (seventh round, 205th overall).

During a 4-2 win for the Hitmen over the Kootenay Ice last Sunday, Postma notched his 20th goal of the season to break Kenton Smith's club record for most goals by a defenceman in a single season.

"There are some game stats that go out before the game and I kind of took a peek at it," said Postma, who also capped off a five-game goal-scoring streak, another club record for rearguards. "I knew I was getting close."

With 15 points in his final 13 games, Postma can break Matt Kinch's club record for points by a blueliner (84) in one season.

Phelps' bong-gate takes new turn?

NEWS A South Carolina television station reported yesterday that police arrested eight people in connection with the house party in which U.S. swimmer Michael Phelps was photographed smoking what was alleged to be marijuana.

According to WIS-TV, police reportedly tracked down the water bong Phelps was photographed using after its owner allegedly tried to sell it on eBay for US$100,000. Police have not confirmed the arrests. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports in brief

NHL The Dallas Stars have assigned left-winger Sean Avery to Hartford, the AHL affiliate of the New York Rangers. Avery was suspended by the NHL for six games without pay following comments he made in Calgary in December regarding his ex-girlfriends dating other hockey players.

CFL Montreal Alouettes quarterback Anthony Calvillo announced yesterday that he will play in the 2009 season. Whether he would play or not was contingent on his wife's health. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Tejada charged; guilty plea expected today

BASEBALL Five-time all-star Miguel Tejada is expected to plead guilty today to lying to U.S. Congress about his knowledge of other baseball players using steroids, a legal source and court documents revealed yesterday.

Tejada, 34, the American League's Most Valuable Player in 2002 while with the Oakland Athletics, was charged yesterday with making the misrepresentations to congressional staff members in 2005 when he said he never knew of any other player using steroids.

Federal prosecutors charged Tejada in a six-page court document known as a "criminal information," which typically is used when a defendant has agreed to plead guilty.

The case involving Tejada was filed the day after Alex Rodriguez, the New York Yankees star who is the game's highest paid player, admitted using performance-enhancing drugs.

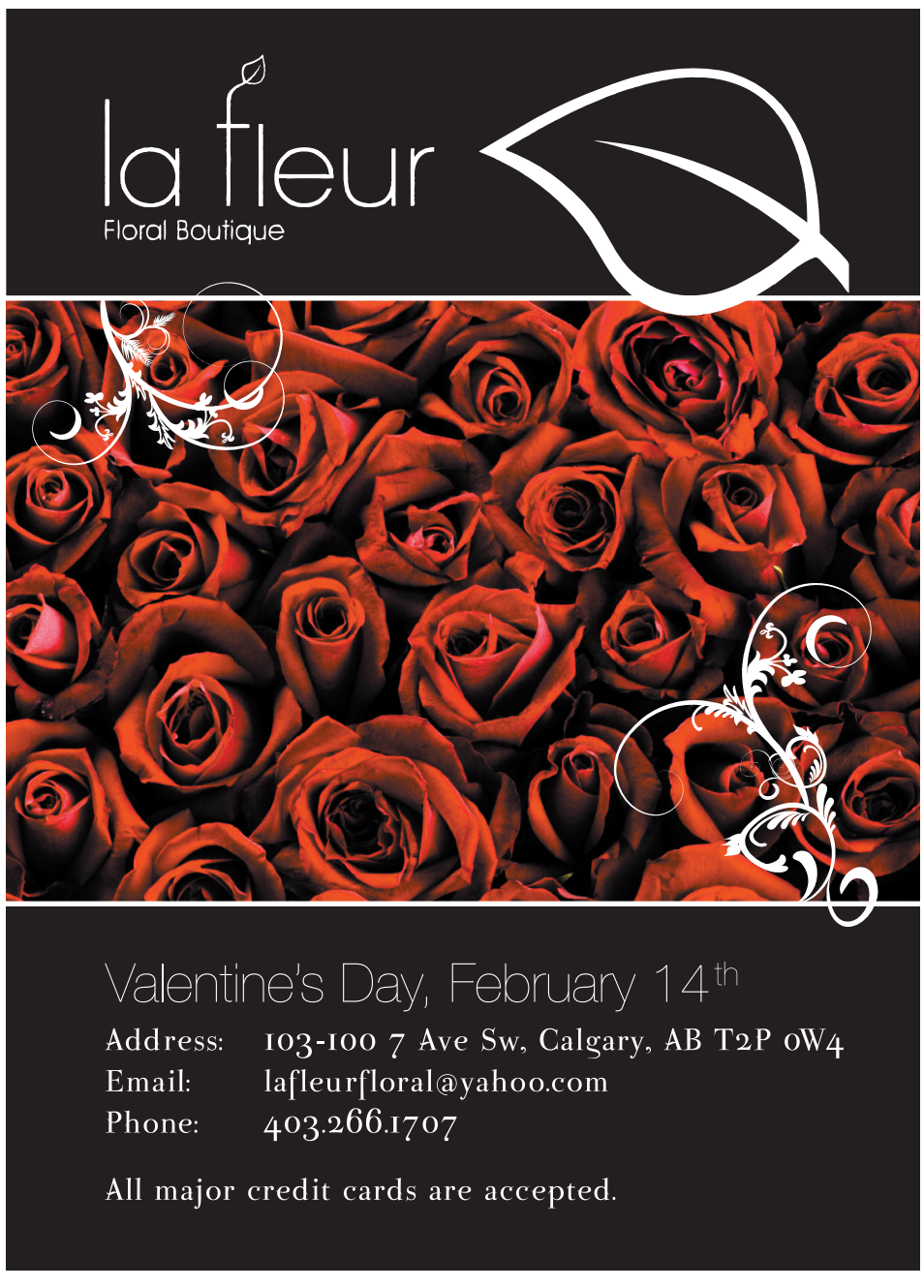
After Sports Illustrated reported on Saturday that he tested positive for testosterone and the anabolic steroid Primobolan in 2003, Rodriguez admitted to ESPN television on Monday that he took a banned substance from 2001 to 2003, saying he felt pressure to perform upon signing a record 10-year, $250-million contract with the Texas Rangers.

Tejada was AL MVP in 2002 with Oakland.

According to the court documents, Tejada told staffers from the House of Representatives Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in 2005 that he never used illegal performance-enhancing drugs.

Prosecutors did not accuse Tejada of lying about allegations concerning his own steroids use.

REUTERS



Metro Drive

Vue from a class

Student engineers from three Canadian universities have unveiled their projects in the EcoCAR competition at the Washington Auto Show, Canadian Driver reports. The three-year challenge requires students to fit alternative technologies to Saturn Vue vehicles. The participating universities are: University of Victoria, University of Ontario Institute of Technology and University of Waterloo. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

The new BMW Z4, left, and the Lincoln MKT, will make their Canadian debuts at the Canadian International Auto Show in Toronto. The event kicks off this Friday.

New age dawns in Canada

The future's on hyperdrive at this year's Toronto auto show

MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Canada

Despite a challenging economy and a reduced market outlook for 2009, the Canadian International Auto Show (CIAS) makes its return to Toronto Friday. And while the weather might be cold and gloomy, the show itself will feature some of the hottest new models and technology influencing the sector today.

The event's theme for 2009 is "The New Era", a way to show the public that offerings are changing rapidly given the economic and environmental challenges facing the auto industry today. David McClean, CIAS director of marketing services, thinks the show is evolving with consumer tastes and demands.

"We used 'The Turning Point' in 2008, and it was clear the industry was evolving in a new direction, but there wasn't much in the way of tangible evidence yet. It was almost too early. This year, 'The New Era' reflects all of these global issues we're facing."

McClean is very enthusiastic about the new technology on display at this year's CIAS, including hybrids, diesels and electrics. "The public will get to see all the alternatives to the gasoline engine. And we have the new 'GTA in Motion — The Future is Electric' showcase, where they can see some first-generation electric vehicles on display."

Also, students from Humber College will participate in the show, and will "create and demonstrate electric mobility solutions that embrace the viability of the all-electric future."

Hybrid, electric and diesel technology has never been hotter, and you can expect the concept vehicles and debuts to reflect that spirit of change. "The New Era" indeed; four of the five concepts to be shown are powered by something other than gasoline.

The question, as McClean puts it, is "whether the manufacturers will be in a position to address these demands and challenges."

Already, some manufacturers, like Ford and General Motors, are calling for governments and the private sector to partner in investing in the infrastructure needed to support hundreds of thousands of plug-in electric or hydrogen fuel-cell vehicles.

Away from the "green" theme, some of the desirable machinery introduced will focus on high-end Canadian debuts, including the new Audi S4 and V10-powered R8, the BMW Z4, Lincoln MKT, Cadillac SRX and Jaguar XFR, while others are aimed at a more entry-level market, like the attractive Kia Forte and Chevrolet Equinox. And while they debuted at the Montreal Auto Show in January, funky vehicles like the Kia Soul, Nissan Cube and Honda's new Insight hybrid will surely attract plenty of crowds.

For coverage of cool concept cars at the Toronto auto show and more, visit metronews.ca

Top debuts in Toronto

- **Nissan NV 2500:** This is a world debut of Nissan's first in a new line of commercial vehicles that's set to challenge the likes of Ford and General Motors.
- **Toyota Prius/Lexus HS250:** Canadian debuts of Toyota's latest pair of hybrid sedans. Prius hasn't altered its look too much from last generation, but power and fuel economy are both improved. Upscale Lexus HS250 will be the first dedicated luxury hybrid model.
- **Volkswagen Golf:** Latest generation of VW's venerable hatchback has been on sale in Europe for a few months, but this will be our first up-close look. More a facelift than a complete redesign, no word yet on what engines will be available for Canada.
- **Ford Taurus:** From staid to stunning, the new Ford Taurus is the result of Ford's promise to improve its car-based offerings. Will offer the company's new EcoBoost engines, and is said to revive the SHO badge of the late '80s.

MARK ATKINSON/FOR METRO CANADA

Baby Mercedes Benz on a budget

BRADLEY HORN
for Metro Canada

Why did Mercedes-Benz choose Moncton as the venue to launch it face-lifted five-door hatch? Because it's the "New B" in New Brunswick! Get it? No? OK, so the Germans are far better at engineering than cracking jokes.

Actually, that Teutonic technical savvy has been a big part of M-B Canada's message in convincing cash-conscious Canadians that its $30,000 B-Class Compact Sports Tourer is worth spending a little extra coin on.

You see, for all the Audi A3s, Volvo V50s and Mini Clubmans the Benz has been shopped against since bowing into Canada in 2005 (but not the U.S.), it's also rolled in with the considerably less expensive Pontiac Vibe, Mazda5 and Kia Rondo crowd too.

So why spend the extra moolah? Well, admittedly that three-pointed star on the hood carries a lot of cache, but Chris Goczan, the B's product manager, says the badge also brings the automaker's reputation for safety, comfort and road manners.

The front-drive Benz shares a platform with its Euro-only cousin, the A-Class, both employing "sandwich" construction. No, not a German panini press, but a clever way of installing the four-cylinder engine almost on its side, so that in a front-end collision it's forced under, and not into, the passenger cabin.

Standard on all '09 Bs are ESP, traction control, ABS with brake assist, front, side and side-curtain airbags, active head restraints and a new feature that automatically activates the interior lights in a collision, making the vehicle easier to work on for emergency services.

2009 Mercedes Benz B-Class

Type: Compact
Price: from $29,900
Engine: 2.0-litre inline-four
HP: 134
Torque: 136 lb-ft

Highlights

- Mercedes luxury at an affordable price
- Solid feel at the driving wheel

How cool is the ICE?

AutoPilot

Michael Goetz

Veteran auto journalist

The all-new 2010 Chevrolet Equinox, to be exhibited at the Toronto auto show, is the first GM vehicle to be powered by the automaker's all-new 2.4-litre Direct Injection (DI) four-cylinder engine.

The internal combustion engine seems to thrive on siege, like it might be good, hearty soup. Inventors have been trying to topple it over, for about 100 years or so now, with very limited success.

The internal combustion engine (ICE) is under siege. Fuel cells on the west flank. Electric motors on the east. A coalition of various vegetarian contenders stealthily sneaking up from every other direction.

But, as it turns out, the internal combustion engine seems to thrive on siege, like it might be good, hearty soup. Inventors have been trying to topple it over, for about 100 years or so now, with very limited success. And now that the ICE must constantly battle in a greenmad world, it grows only stronger, and more able to withstand the slings and arrows of outrageous alternatives.

To back up this theorem (such as it is), I give you five exhibits from the 2009 Canadian International Auto Show in Toronto:

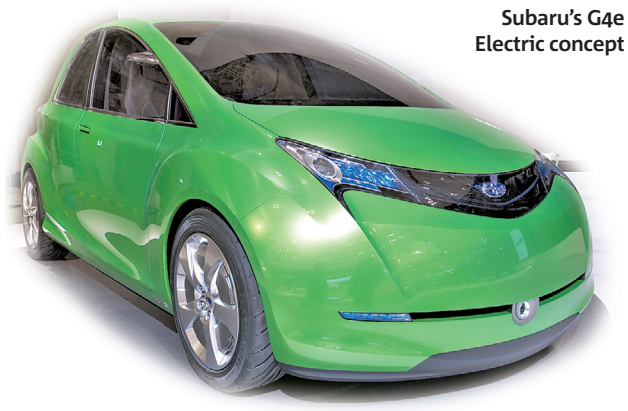
- The all-new 2010 Chevrolet Equinox is the first GM vehicle to be powered by the automaker's all-new 2.4-litre Direct Injection (DI) four-cylinder engine. As many of you know, in a DI engine the fuel and air are injected directly into the combustion chamber (as opposed to upstream in the intake system). This allows engineers to control the burn with NASA-like precision, for superior everything — power, torque, efficiency, cleanliness, drive-ability, etc. (If it had feet it would even dance better.) The cool thing about this Chevy application is that we're talking mainstream domestic, instead of upstream European, where you find most DI power plants.
- The all-new Honda Insight is a hybrid, yes, but its 1.3-litre SOHC aluminum-alloy i-VTEC "four" is a brilliant example of how an ICE can be tailored to meet the task at hand, which in this application, is being the fuel-miserly soulmate to an electric motor. It is completely optimized for fuel efficiency, featuring, among other items, cylinder deactivation and auto start-stop.
- The new 2010 Audi A3 TDI is another clean diesel. These new-generation diesel power plants, using low-sulphur diesel fuel, are killer.
- The new 2010 Nissan Cube is a ride in the small-is-cool school of design (like Mini, Smart, Beetle, etc.) If this fashion trend continues it will encourage us to celebrate and desire ICEs at the smaller end of the scale – and that will keep them relevant.
- The 2010 Jaguar XFR celebrates the ICE at the bigger end of the scale. Its all-new-from-the-ground-up 5.0-litre V8, features the world's first spray-guided direct injection system, and twin "Eaton" type superchargers. The blowers crank the V8's output to 510 hp and 461 lb-ft of torque. As the kids say, that's sic.

Which reminds us of another reason for keeping the ICE alive — for the children. Let's do it for the children. Let's not deprive future generations of what it feels and sounds like to have eight large pistons popping at 6,000 rpm and reporting through a low-restrictive dual exhaust system. It's only fair.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for more than 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

Green rules show concepts

MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Canada



Subaru's G4e Electric concept

While concept vehicles usually run high on emotional appeal and head-in-the-clouds thinking, this year there's very little in the way of impossible technology in the five concepts that will be in attendance at the 2009 Canadian International Auto Show,

In fact, of the five vehicles to be exhibited, four feature some sort of 'green' technology, reflecting the current consumer demand for more environmentally-friendly options.

HONDA FC SPORT CONCEPT

Honda is bringing its FC Sport Design Study, which takes the hydrogen fuel cell technology found in the limited-production FCX Clarity sedan and stuffs it into something slimmer, sleeker and sexier.

The company promises supercar levels of performance thanks to low weight, an attention to aerodynamics and powerful electric motors, all with no tailpipe emissions.

Likelihood of production: Poor, unless you're in California.

BMW 7 SERIES ACTIVE HYBRID

The concept most likely to hit dealerships soon, and will be the first challenger to the Lexus LS 600h L in the flagship-hybrid sweepstakes. However, unlike the Lexus, the BMW is what's called a 'mild' hybrid, meaning it only has small 'helper' battery to give a modest boost in power and economy.

Likelihood of production: Excellent.

MITSUBISHI MIEV

The Mitsubishi MiEV is another concept that relies on electricity to motivate itself, but this time it uses traditional lithium-ion batteries and an electric motor, and can be plugged in.

Likelihood of production: Excellent... in Japan.

NISSAN FORUM CONCEPT

While Nissan is quietly putting its Quest minivan out to pasture, it will show the FORUM Concept, which is what the company calls "the next revolution in family transportation."

The FORUM's unique feature is a second-row seat that can rotate 180 degrees to face the three-seat rear bench.

Likelihood of production: Maybe.

SUBARU G4E ELECTRIC

Finally, the Subaru G4e electric concept vehicle's wedge-shaped design is wrapped around a five-passenger cabin. Power comes from next-generation lithium-ion battery, which the company says allows the G4e to travel about 200 kilometres. The batteries can be fully recharged in about eight hours, or to 80 per cent capacity with a quick 15-minute charge.

Likelihood of production: Maybe.

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Set your heart racing

If you've already got Olympic fever, here's one way to quell it: Book a run on the Olympia Bob Run in the tony ski resort of St. Moritz, Switzerland. It's the only natural ice bob run in the world, and got its name after hosting the Winter Olympics in 1928 and 1948. See olympia-bobrun.ch. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel

NYC theatre deals

New York City tourism officials have trumpeted two new programs in recent days to promote the city's vaunted theatre scene. On the House, from Feb. 15 to March 1, includes two-for-one tickets at more than 30 Off-Broadway shows. Visit nycgo.com/onthehouse for details. Another new microsite, nycgo.com/broadway, provides the latest information about Broadway shows. Close to two dozen new Broadway productions will open in the coming weeks. METRO NEWS SERVICES

TRAVELDESK@METRONEWS.CA

The buzz on a unique tourism draw

TheTravelJunkie

Julia Dimon

metronews.ca/traveljunkie

Some corners of the world entice visitors by establishing self-guided wine-country routes, but Slovenia wants you to take a road trip along a trail of beekeeping sites.

Dubbed beekeeping tourism, this relatively new initiative invites visitors to drive across the Central European countryside, stopping along a trail of specialty farms for a behind-the-scenes look at the honey industry.

In Slovenia, the art of beekeeping is so celebrated that its referred to as "the poetry of agriculture." Its one of the area's oldest rural activities, and with an estimated four beekeepers for every 1,000 Slovenians, it remains an integral part of the nations culture.

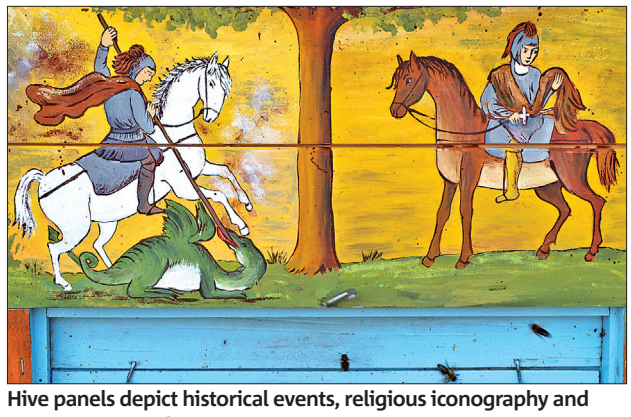
Janes Gregori, a member of the Slovenian Beekeepers Association, samples locally made honey wine.

"To be Slovenian is to be a beekeeper," goes a popular saying.

While there are plenty of agricultural farms and bee-related museums to visit, the best place to start your tour is the 130-year old beekeeping association, just an hour's drive from the capital city.

There, I met Janes Gregori, a 66-year-old former biologist and member of the Slovenian Beekeepers Association, who shared a swarm of information about his craft.

In the mid-1700s, he says, beekeepers started painting the front of their hives to help distinguish between colonies.



JULIA DIMON/FOR METRO CANADA

Hive panels depict historical events, religious iconography and satirical village life. Slovenian beekeepers started painting the hives in the mid-1700s to help distinguish between colonies.

Hive panels have intricately decorated wooden fronts that depict historical events, religious iconography and satirical village life. It's a tradition that continues today.

I learned that Slovenia is home to its own race of bees called the Carniolan. This endemic species (now exported all over the world) is legally protected and is known for its gentle character, and hard-working nature.

Janes explained that global bee populations are dwindling. But while colonies may be in jeopardy elsewhere in the world, they sure seem to be flourishing in Slovenia.

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AMBER BELLAIRE
for Metro Canada

Forget Paris and Venice — with a little imagination, you'll find that Canada boasts plenty of locations to inspire lovers.

Valentine'sDay

Ontario

Many package deals can be found for Valentine's Day visits to Niagara Falls, but if you're looking for something a little more private, and a lot more original, take hold of your lover's hand — and heart — and climb to the top of Ontario's highest point of land.

Temagami, in northeastern Ontario, is home to Caribou Mountain, a large hill with a steep cliff. It may not be the Rockies, but the region is home to a lake and forest, non-commercialized and indisputably private — a 2006 Statistics Canada report put Temagami's population at less than 1,000.

Quebec

The ability to speak French is of course very sexy, but you don't have to be Pepe Le Pew to bring that extra bit of distinction to your Valentine's Day dinner. In Quebec City, you can treat your partner to a horse-drawn carriage ride down cobblestone streets and past 17th century architecture that's just dripping with European flair.

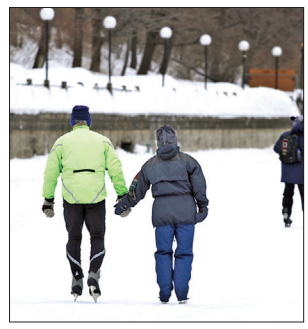
British Columbia

Money can't buy you love but it can sure pay for some fabulously romantic outings. Victoria's one of Canada's most expensive cities, but it's also one of its classiest, most historical and most scenic.

We all know that men love visuals and women love substance, and this city has both.

Nova Scotia

Dating one of those people who always thinks they're right? Check out Digby, N.S., which has a population of 2,300 and coastal waters as clear as champagne. Its residents consider it to be the most romantic town in Canada — and they have an excellent case, but you'll never know for sure unless you go.



If you can't find a romantic spot in Canada, you're not trying.

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Cruise cup up for auction
Tom Cruise's coffee cup is up for auction. A Brazilian website is selling the container reportedly used by the actor while on holiday in Brazil. So far the empty cup has a sale price of $2,200 US. **FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK**

Entertainment

Beach beauty

Israeli beauty Bar Refaeli — who is dating Leonardo DiCaprio — will appear on the cover of Sports Illustrated's 2009 swimsuit edition.

PEOPLE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN LISK, DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies are a great conversation builder, but not always the best choice for the first date.

Movie romance

Watching flicks together great for date night

ROBYN YOUNG
for Metro Canada

Ah, the movies. What better way to spend a frigid Friday night in February with your latest crush? Sitting in a dark theatre, close enough for your shoulders and elbows to touch, and maybe reaching for that hot, buttery popcorn or the Junior Mints at the same time.

Going to the movies has always been a good date-night option says Paul Dergarabedian, box office analyst for Hollywood.com.

"There's just something about dinner and a movie that really says romance," he said. "You can bond through the experience of enjoying a movie together and being able to talk about it after."

Movies are a great conversation builder and point of reference for people, he said. "So it instantly allows rapport to develop between you," he added.

But be careful, warns dating expert Kim Hughes, editor-in-chief for online dating site Lavalife, going to the movies is not always the best first date.

"You don't really get a chance to get to know each other," she said. The dating guru says that going to a movie on the first date is also too much of a time commitment.

"As a general rule we say great first dates ... are about an hour," she said. "Because that way, if it's fantastic, you can make a second date and go to a movie or go out for dinner or commit more time.

"If it's not fantastic, then an hour is a manageable amount of time to lose."

And although a romantic comedy might seem like a perfect date-night movie pick, Hughes suggests steering clear of them at the beginning of a relationship.

Valentine's**Day**

"I think that there would be kind of a squirmy factor with that," she said.

For Valentine's Day weekend, Dergarabedian suggests a good date movie — as strange as it may sound — might be the new version of Friday the 13th.

Romantic comedies such as He's Just Not That Into You and Confessions of a Shopaholic are also in theatres in time for Valentine's Day, but Hughes suggests these might be better to go see with friends.

Or, at least until you've gotten past those initial awkward stages of the dating game.

Entertainment in brief

MOVIES Moviefone has released its list of the most romantic comedies in time for Valentine's Day. Here are the top 20:

20. Herold and Maude (1971)
19. The 40 Year Old Virgin (2005)
18. Tootsie (1982)
17. Something Wild (1986)
16. Sixteen Candles (1984)
15. Muriel's Wedding (1994)
14. The Shop Around the Corner (1940)
13. The Wedding Singer (1988)
12. Jerry Maguire (1996)
11. His Girl Friday (1940)
10. Bridget Jones's Diary (2001)
9. It Happened One Night (1934)
8. Groundhog Day (1993)
7. Some Like it Hot (1959)
6. Four Weddings and a Funeral (1997)
5. Pretty Woman (1990)
4. Moonstruck (1987)
3. Annie Hall (1977)
2. The Philadelphia Story (1940)
1. When Harry Met Sally (1989)

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Mini-hunk

He may be engaged, but ladies looking to get their hands on Channing Tatum can now take the hard-bodied hunk home with them. Tatum is one of five G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra stars to have a Hasbro action figure modeled in his likeness. **PEOPLE.COM**

Booted designer learns big lesson to 'follow your heart'

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Vancouver designer Christie Clayton got the boot on last night's episode of Project Runway Canada for creating a dress even she admitted wasn't true to her design vision.

Clayton, 30, was emotional and upset during the judging panel of last night's episode as she conceded to the judges that her garment — a dress with a silky top half and high waist shorts in the bottom half — just wasn't her.

She said the worst part was feeling that she hadn't stayed true to her own ideals as a designer.

"When you make something you don't believe in for people who are really important, it's really tough," Clayton told Metro.

Christie Clayton says she's an edgy streetwear designer.

For this week's challenge the designers were paired up and asked to create separate day and evening garments to showcase a new spring line of L'Oreal Paris beauty products.

Free-spirited Clayton picked more conservative Hamilton designer Jason Meyers, who had immunity from winning the previous week's challenge. Clayton and Meyers clashed over fashion styles with Clayton eventually agreeing to go for a more traditional look.

Earlier in the season, Clayton had made her unique sense of style apparent with her choices of bold colours and unconventional styles — in the first episode she created a camouflage dress composed of fluorescent neon colours with a lightning bolt as a shoulder strap.

"I really tried hard just to be myself on the show. I'm an edgy streetwear designer — usually I make really edgy clothes," she said.

She says being on the show taught her that sticking to your guns and doing what you believe in is most important.

"I learned to trust my own judgment. The big lesson was to always follow your heart and trust your own instinct," Clayton said.

Now that she's off the show, Clayton is happy to be back at her own clothing line, Carny Love (carnylove.com), getting her new spring and summer collection ready. She admits the level of experience and talent among the other designers was intimidating but that as stressful as being on the show was, it was worth it.

"Being on the show was very stressful and really hard but also very positive. I learned a lot about myself," Clayton said.

Tuesdays

- The second season of Project Runway Canada airs every Tuesday night on Global.

Faceless actor finds fame behind mask

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

Movie **feature**

A scene from the upcoming reimagining of Friday The 13th.

FEATURE Jared Padalecki may be starring in the new big-screen version of Friday the 13th, but the lead actor behind TV's Supernatural had no grand illusions about it during a recent interview in Los Angeles.

"I'm not fooling myself; people aren't coming to see me, they're coming to see Jason," admitted the actor regarding cinema's famous killer. "I think there's something great about the mystery behind the mask and our Jason, Derek Mears, just the physical presence that he is."

There's no doubt about that. At six-foot-five, Mears is a looming gentleman, complete with a powerful build and shaved head. His presence even proceeds the stuntman-turned-actor as made evident by the rousing reception his name garnered when it appeared on-screen during a preview in Hollywood.

"I have a lot of friends in the industry," the modest actor said, but in truth, Mears has been thrust into the public spotlight (thanks to the Internet) ever since he got cast as the infamous hockey-masked murderer.

His quick rise to fame is shocking, especially since the film doesn't hit theatres until this Friday … Friday the 13th in case you didn't know.

"I'm not fooling myself; people aren't coming to see me, they're coming to see Jason."
Jared Padalecki, costar

As Jason, Mears stars as the grown-up version of the boy-turned-vengeful psychotic who, after the murder of his mother, began to take his bloodlust out on unsuspecting (and often topless) campers. It's an especially violent reimagining of the original series, which began in 1980 and became the horror genre's most successful franchise.

"There's something about the fear of the immortal, the fear of a guy who knows the woods like the back of his hand," said Padalecki. "There's something amazing about camping and going for a hike. As soon as that sun goes down, you go, 'man, if someone's out here in the woods, they could just toy with me.' Ultimately that, (Jason's) size and a big old blade — it's all pretty frightening."

Potter actor gets down and dirty

ROLES Rupert Grint, who plays red-headed sidekick Ron Weasley in the Harry Potter movies, has moved on to more grown-up pastimes. In Cherrybomb, which had its world premiere Sunday at the Berlin International Film Festival, Grint plays a youth dabbling in drugs, joy-riding and the thrills of teenage sex. It's a far cry from the innocent excitement of Hogwarts.

"It was always going to be quite tricky. Harry Potter's a big thing really, so I've always known it's going to be pretty hard," Grint said. **REUTERS**

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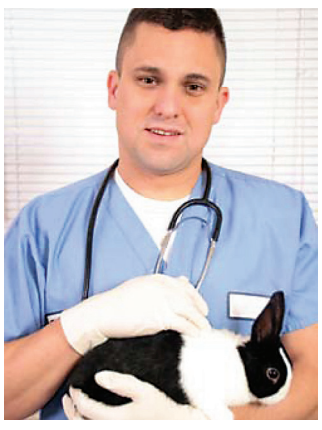

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Mayer will serenade Jen for her birthday

Happy Birthday isn't the only tune Jennifer Aniston will getting for her birthday today. John Mayer has prepared his own serenade to help his girlfriend celebrate the big 4-0, a source tells People magazine. **PEOPLE.COM**

U.S. supermarket, newsstand magazine sales tumble

Newsstand and retail sales of U.S. magazines fell 11 per cent in the second half of 2008, with celebrity and women's titles taking a hit as supermarket and drugstore shoppers cut back on their spending.

"Single-copy" sales of magazines in figures released by the U.S. Audit Bureau of Circulations on Monday performed worse than paid subscriptions, which were up less than 1 per cent.

Total paid and verified U.S. magazine circulation fell a bit less than one per cent, the Audit Bureau said.

Among traditionally popular titles at the grocery store checkout line, sales of US Weekly fell almost 21 per cent to about 1 million copies. In Touch Weekly dropped 32 per cent to about 1.2 million copies.

Hearst Corp's O, The Oprah Magazine fell 25 per cent to 836,770 copies, and Star Magazine fell 13.45 per cent to 712,980 copies.

One exception was People, published by Time Warner Inc's Time Inc. Single-copy circulation rose 3.4 per cent. **REUTERS**

Heche will co-star in new HBO series

TELEVISION

Heche

Anne Heche will co-star in HBO's new series Hung, a dark comedy that centers on a well-endowed but struggling high school basketball coach.

Thomas Jane plays the lead character, Ray. Heche will play Ray's ex-wife, who is remarried. The actress replaces Kristin Bauer, who played the role in the pilot. **REUTERS**

In brief

FILM Aaron Eckhart and Oscar nominee Richard Jenkins will be hitting the sauce in The Rum Diary, the screen adaptation of the Hunter S. Thompson novel that stars Johnny Depp. Eckhart is in negotiations while Jenkins has signed on for the independent film. **REUTERS**

GlobalStyle

Kenya Hunt

Read Kenya, exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle and check out her blog at kenyastyle.com

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	557	541 39 FAM	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School
	555	545 67 TOON	*Ben 10: Secret*	Johnny Test	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	American Dad	Robot Chicken
	575	583 11 CMT	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Three Chords	Tara Diaries	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba
	553	546 17 TREE	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Max & Ruby	Babar	Backyardigans	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!
	-	- 18 CHTV	The Insider (N)	E! News	Kardashians: True Story		Knight Rider (HDTV) (N)		Party Monsters: Cabo (N)		News (N)
	505	398 19 TWN	(5) EarthWatch One		EarthWatch One		EarthWatch Two				
	602	568 23 W	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	Grocery	Grocery	How Clean	Too Posh	Maxed Out
	521	560 24 TLC	World's Smallest People		World's Tallest Woman		My Shocking Story		World's Smallest People		Tallest Woman
	603	561 25 FOOD	Iron Chef America		Top Chef		Restaurant Makeover		Challenge		Iron Chef Am.
	615	520 26 A&E	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Exterminators	Exterminators	Bounty Hunter	The First 48 (HDTV)		Bounty Hunter
	617	522 32 SHOW	Wife Swap		The Outer Limits		About a Girl	About a Girl	The Guard (HDTV)		Big Love
	601	562 33 SLICE	Real Housewives of OC		Kimora: Fab	Kardashians	ET Canada	Matchmaker	Chop Shop	Mr. Friday	Trading Sp
	-	633 34 ENC2	*Bullet-Beijing*	(7:25) *Midnight in Saint Petersburg* (1997)			*Network* ★★★★ (1976, Drama) Faye Dunaway, Peter Finch.				*Running-Empty*
	520	505 35 DISC	Deadliest Catch		Mayday		Daily Planet		MythBusters		Austin Stevens
	620	523 36 BRAVO	Wingfield	Wingfield	Death at-Opera	Broadway	Law & Order		Without a Trace		*Just a Kiss*
	294	650 40 WPCH	(6) *A Simple Plan* (1998, Suspense)			Seinfeld	Family Guy	Family Guy	*A Simple Plan* ★★ (1998, Suspense)		
	626	547 41 COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	Just for Laughs (DVS)		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Jon Dore Show
	-	539 42 TCM	(6) *Night of the Iguana*		*Lassie Come Home* (1943, Drama) (DVS)			(9:45) *National Velvet* ★★★★ (1944, Drama) (DVS)			
	628	584 43 SPIKE	UFC's Ultimate Fight Night				Ways to Die	Ways to Die	CSI: NY "A Man a Mile"		Disorderly
	522	516 45 HIST	Museum Mysteries-World		NCIS "Yankee White"		Cities of the Underworld		Museum Mysteries-World		NCIS
	627	528 46 SPACE	Star Trek: Voyager		Rabbit Fall	Rabbit Fall	Stargate SG-1 "Urgo"		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Trek: Voyager
	-	- 47 AMC	(6) *Celtic Pride* (1996)		*Road House* ★★ (1989, Action) (HDTV) Patrick Swayze, Kelly Lynch.					*The Skulls* ★ (2000)	
	619	525 49 TROP	What Happen?	What Happen?	Reality	Ad Persuasion	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Raymond	Family Guy
	600	564 50 HGTV	Property Virgin	Unsellable	Hid Potential	Really Big Flip	Holmes on Homes		Property Virgin	Unsellable	Mansions
	501	391 52 CTV	CTV Newsnet		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
	504	508 70 BNN	Squeeze Play		Market Call		Headline	Market Call	Commodities	Business News	Squeeze Play
	526	507 92 VIVA	Medium		Mediums	Psychic Det.	Mediums	Encounters	Judging Amy		Medium
	269	350 93 APTN	APTN National News: Contact		Being Innu		Canadian Geographic		Miywayawin	Guides	Wings-Canada
	-	- 94 MCP	(6:30) News	News	Matchmaker	Mom's-Upset	Van. Nights	Iranian Pop	Sabor Latino		Sabor Musical
	571	581 100 MMM	Fabulous Life Of...		All-Time Top 10		Revival	Back In	Party of Five		All-Time 10
	570	580 101 MM	Degrassi: TNG	Degrassi: TNG	Video on Trial	Video on Trial	PunchMuch		America's Best Dance Crew		disBand
	581	566 102 MTV	The Real World		The Real World (N)		MTV Live	After	Next	The City	Real World

critics' corner

Lost

We need Dramamine just to keep us from passing out with all these twists. Locke (Terry O'Quinn) takes on the burden of trying to stop the island's increasingly violent shifts through time. Meanwhile, Ben (Michael Emerson) hits a roadblock in his attempt to reunite the Oceanic 6 and bring them back to the island in "This Place Is Death." Naveen Andrews, Matthew Fox, Jorge Garcia and Evangeline Lilly also star. 10 PM on KXLY

Anna and Kristina's Grocery Bag

On her cooking show "Nigella Express," British chef Nigella Lawson specializes in food that's long on taste but takes a short time to prepare. In this new episode, Anna and Kristina put to the test six recipes from the "Nigella Express" companion cookbook to see if they really are fast, easy and nonstressful for someone coming off a long workday to make. They also offer tips on choosing a kitchen scale. 9 PM on W

No purchase necessary. Limit one entry per person per day. Only 1 grand prize. Approx. retail value $5,000. Must be Canadian resident who is age of majority in province they reside. Excludes Quebec residents. Contest runs from Wednesday, February 11, 2009 through Tuesday, March 10, 2009. Mathematical skill testing question must be answered correctly. Odds of being selected depend on # of eligible entries received. For full set of Contest rules, visit www.slice.ca.

Birkhead still struggles with Anna Nicole's death

Larry Birkhead says he still struggles with the death of Anna Nicole Smith, which happened two years ago Sunday. "It's hard to believe that Anna is gone," Birkhead — who fathered two-year-old Dannielynn with the actress — tells Usmagazine.com. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Rihanna delays her concert in Malaysia

CAREER Usmagazine. com is reporting that Rihanna has postponed a concert in Malaysia this week, an organizer confirmed Tuesday to the website.

Rihanna's Los Angeles-based reps informed Malaysia's Pineapple Concerts that a show slated for Friday would have to be rescheduled to an unspecified date "in light of recent events involving Rihanna," Pineapple Concerts said in a statement to the Associated Press.

Indonesia and Malaysia were the latest stops on the singer's Good Girl Gone Bad tour. The singer intends to travel back to her native Barbados to be with family, usmagazine.com reports.

The website adds that she is also providing "ongoing" cooperation with police during their battery investigation against Brown, a police source tells the Los Angeles Times. Unnamed sources told the Times that Rihanna (real name: Robyn Fenty) told police that Brown had hurt her the night before the Grammys.

Meanwhile, Brown who will be arraigned March 5, boarded a private plane leaving L.A. on Monday, Us magazine reports. The website also says Brown has pulled out of an appearance at the NBA All-Stars, a league spokesperson confirmed.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Jolie frets over earrings

PEOPLE Angelina Jolie lost a pair of multi-million dollar diamond earrings, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Changeling star left the Asprey jewellery she wore to the BAFTA Awards on Sunday in her suite at London's Dorchester Hotel when she left to return to the U.S.

The 33-year-old actress realized she had forgotten the earrings as she was preparing to board her flight and called hotel staff, begging them to search her suite.

A source said: "Staff got a frantic call from Angelina at the airport, urging them to take her room apart. Happily, the diamonds were found after a 90-minute search and promptly sent back to Los Angeles."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Hudson and Owen reunite

RELATIONSHIP Hollywood's on-again, off-again couple — Kate Hudson and Owen Wilson — are on yet again, people.com is reporting.

"They're back together," a source tells People magazine of the pair, who spent all of Sunday together at Wilson's Malibu home. Also there: Hudson's 5-year-old son Ryder.

Hudson, 29, and Wilson, 40, most recently reunited in Feb. 2008, when they appeared cozy at last year's Academy Awards.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Miley apologizes again for photo

APOLOGY Miley Cyrus has made a second apology over her racially offensive photograph, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Hannah Montana star — who last week spoke out about the picture of her slanting her eyes, but was later blasted for being disingenuous — has issued a more serious and heartfelt apology.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Spears to pay Fed $5,000 to see sons

PEOPLE Britney Spears will pay Kevin Federline $5,000 U.S. a week so she can see her sons while on tour, femalefirst.co.uk reports. It has been reported a deal has been signed by the Womanizer singer and her ex-husband, to ensure Spears has access to their two children while she is on the road.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Bullock doesn't rule out children

FAMILY More than three years into her marriage to Jesse James, Sandra Bullock says she enjoys being a stepmother — though she hasn't ruled out having her own children as well, people.com reports.

"I have family in spades," Bullock, 44, tells InStyle magazine for its March issue. The actress' husband has three children — son Jesse Jr., 11, and daughters Chandler, 14, and Sunny, 5 — from two previous marriages.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Duff defends remarks

CAREER Hilary Duff says she doesn't regret dissing Faye Dunaway, usmagazine.com reports.

After Dunaway, 68, criticized Duff's acting skills when she learned the singer, 21, was assuming her role in an upcoming remake of 1967's Bonnie and Clyde, Duff sniped, "None of my fans even knew who she is."

On Tuesday's Bonnie Hunt Show, Duff defends her remarks.

"She started acting way later than I did so I think I have time to grow and grow with each project," she says. "I am learning and work hard at my craft."

While Duff admits her remark was mean, she says, "It's not OK for people to take stabs at you and to say mean things for no reason."

Hunt tried to comfort Duff on the episode of her talk show, saying: "I think even Faye went through a time, if you look historically, where some people might have said that about her," Hunt tells the singer.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Richards' Dancing fears

CAREER Denise Richards called her last foray into reality TV It's Complicated, and she may want to call her next venture It's Scary, people.com reports.

"My biggest fear is just forgetting everything right before going on live, that's what I'm scared of," the actress tells People magazine about her new role as contestant on the eighth season of Dancing With the Stars. "All I hope is that I don't embarrass my girls."

Daughters Sam, 4, and Lola, 3, will be cheering on Richards, 37, throughout the competition.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Kanye parties with three women

PEOPLE Kanye West sneaked out of a Los Angeles nightclub with three women, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The rapper, who has been single since splitting from fiancée Alexis Phifer last year, was surrounded by females at the launch of Belvedere IX Vodka at Los Angeles' My-House last week.

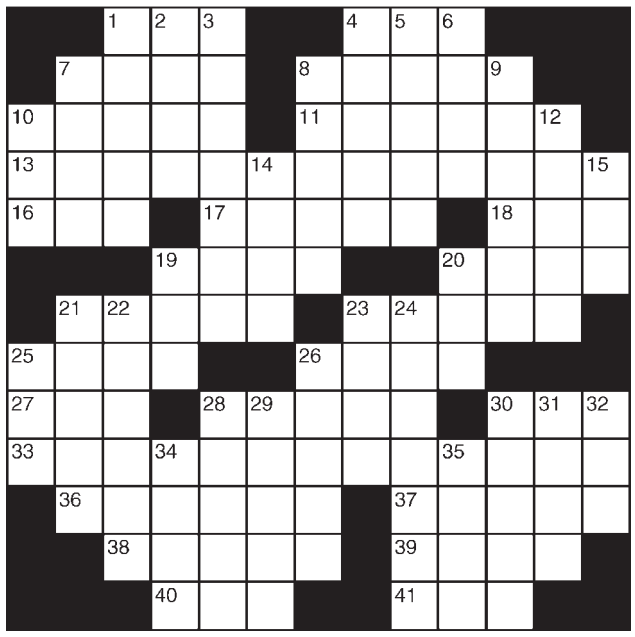
METRO NEWS SERVICES

Today Some clouds -2 C / -10 C
Thursday Mostly clouds -6 C / -10 C
Friday Mostly clouds -8 C / -14 C

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

Andrew Schultz, Weather Specialist – Breakfast Television
"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta."
WEEKDAYS AT 6 AM

Take Five



Crossword across

1 Vacationing
4 Bribe
7 Duel tool
8 Stimulant
10 Gave it a whack
11 Light brown fur
13 Department store employee
16 "A Chorus Line" song
17 Circular
18 Anger
19 Exceptional
20 Oklahoma city
21 Invigorating
23 Spree
25 Appear
26 Colour quality
27 Branch
28 Streetcars' kin
30 High-arc shot
33 Storm-predicting agency
36 In layers
37 Shabby
38 Indigent
39 Hollywood clashers
40 Susan of "L.A. Law"
41 Lair

Crossword down

1 Put one's two cents in
2 Nourish
3 Men's hats
4 Reject with disdain
5 Made up one's mind
6 Pron. type
7 "— go bragh!"
8 Excessive
9 On the way up
10 Even number
12 Eagle's home
14 Drudgery
15 Roulette bet
19 Edge
20 Compass dir.
21 Jaunty chapeau
22 Go nowhere
23 Zero-star movie
24 Protected, in a way
25 Witnessed
26 Late
28 "... — Men in a Tub"
29 High-pitched
30 Spill the beans
31 Dinner for Dobbin
32 Purchase
34 Prepared to drive (with "up")
35 Anger

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	9	2					3	
8					1		4	
7			6		9	8		
	5			4		7		9
6		9		1			2	
		3	2		5			1
	8		3					5
	2					6	7	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

M	E	S	S	■	F	O	B	■	W	A	N	D		
A	X	L	E	■	A	P	R	■	A	L	E	E		
U	P	O	N	■	T	E	A	R	D	O	W	N		
L	O	W	D	O	W	N	■	I	D	E	S	T		
■	■	■	E	R	A	■	F	O	E	■	■	■		
S	T	A	R	R	■	P	U	T	D	O	W	N		
O	O	P	■	■	O	A	R	■	■	L	E	O		
L	E	T	D	O	W	N	■	R	I	D	E	R		
■	■	■	A	W	L	■	B	U	N	■	■	■		
S	H	I	R	E	■	S	U	N	D	O	W	N		
L	O	C	K	D	O	W	N	■	E	R	I	E		
O	B	O	E	■	V	I	N	■	E	E	L	S		
B	O	N	N	■	A	M	Y	■	D	O	L	T		

2	3	6	7	8	5	4	9	1
9	8	5	4	1	2	3	6	7
1	7	4	9	6	3	5	2	8
6	4	2	8	3	7	9	1	5
8	1	9	5	2	6	7	4	3
3	5	7	1	9	4	2	8	6
4	6	8	3	5	9	1	7	2
7	2	3	6	4	1	8	5	9
5	9	1	2	7	8	6	3	4

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min .....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Butternut Squash Gratin

INGREDIENTS:
1 butternut squash, about 2 lbs (1 kg), halved crosswise, then lengthwise, seeded and peeled
1 medium red onion, halved and thinly sliced
1 1/2 cups (375 ml) frozen corn kernels, thawed
2 1/4 tsp (11 ml) extra virgin olive oil
1/3 cup (75 ml) grated Parmesan cheese

METHOD:
1. Preheat oven to 400°F (200°C). Quarter butternut squash pieces lengthwise and then cut crosswise into 1/2-in. (1-cm) thick chunks. Combine squash, onion, corn and oil in large bowl, tossing to coat.
2. Arrange vegetables in a 13 x 9-in. (30 x 20-cm) baking dish. Bake until butternut squash is tender, 40 minutes, stirring halfway through cooking time.
3. Sprinkle Parmesan cheese over vegetables and bake until melted and golden, 5 minutes.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
All is well, whether you know it or not. Don't argue with anyone who is on an emotional rollercoaster. Contact an estranged friend to apologize.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
You'll sigh with relief when you find you don't need to know everything. Be patient with an inconsistent visitor. A hacker causes a serious problem.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Ask if you want to know the true purpose of a visit. Increase your happiness without spending money. You're unscathed by a stressful situation.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Vulgar language upsets you. Your hunger for an adventure will soon be satisfied. A no-nonsense person will be unsentimental about the past.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
Shabby treatment causes you to lose interest. The least said about a clash, the better. Outrageous news will come through outside sources.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Be careful about what you say. Commitment demands will be offensive. A confession is funny when temptation can't be avoided.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A spoiled brat makes you groan. Keep quiet about a secret deal. A casual observer will have much to say about solutions to problems.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Your anxiety about the future must be dispelled. Broken promises lead to an important insight. An important man needs your help.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
An injustice won't please you and you'll say so. Sharing your sadness will soothe you. Someone makes sense when he kicks up a fuss.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
A man leaves sooner than he planned. Use your good judgment about choices. An insincere woman grates on your nerves.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
A slothful man tames a frightened friend. Surprising news will come from a sinister person. A guilty woman admits to witnessing an incident.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
A service person clears up some confusion. A self-disciplined guy benefits from your friendship. Your worries will bloom if you overreact.

beats & bullets
Ghostkeeper - Beija Flor
Michael Rault - Fox Opera
Axis of Conversation - Nushi
Reuben Bullock - The Neckers
Hunter Gatherer - The Grim Beat
+ the vintage swing revue
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feb 12+13
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